

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their specification in the paragraph beginning at line 26 on page 7, to recite that, as the thermosetting resin, an isocyanate "resin", a polyfunctional acrylate "resin" or a polyfunctional methacrylate "resin", among other resins, can be used. Noting previous amendments to, for example, page 3, lines 30-35 of Applicants' specification, it is respectfully submitted that these amendments to page 7 of the specification do not add new matter to the application.

Applicants have amended their claims in order to further clarify the definition of various aspects of the present invention. Specifically, claims 4 and 5 have been amended to clarify that the thermosetting resin referred to in each of these claims is the thermosetting resin set forth in claim 3. Moreover, claim 6 has been amended to be dependent on claim 3, and each of claims 6 and 20 has been amended to use language consistent with that used in each of claims 1, 3 and 7 (that is, at least one of the polyfunctional acrylate compound and the polyfunctional methacrylate compound).

Initially, entry of the present amendments is respectfully requested. In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendments do not raise any new issues, including any issue of new matter. Particularly, where Applicants have amended the specification and claims to follow suggested amendments by the Examiner, as well as to provide amendments consistent with previous amendments, such amendments clearly do not raise any new issues, including any issue of new matter.

In addition, by amending the specification and claims to follow suggestions by the Examiner and to clearly overcome bases for objections/rejections, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendments materially limit any issues remaining in connection with the present application, and, at the very least, present the application in better form for appeal. Noting new bases for rejections/objections, and/or clarification of the rejections/objections, in the Office Action mailed November 8, 2002, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendments are clearly timely.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants have made the necessary showing under 37 CFR § 1.116(c); and that, accordingly, entry of the present amendments is clearly proper.

In view of present amendments to the paragraph at page 7, lines 26-30, of Applicants' specification, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the disclosure as set forth in Item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action mailed November 8, 2002, is moot.

In view of the amendments to claims 6 and 20, wherein Applicants have followed the Examiner's suggested amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to claims 6 and 20 as set forth in Item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action mailed November 8, 2002, is moot. In this regard, the Examiner is thanked for the suggested amendments to claims 6 and 20.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 4-6 under the second paragraph of 35 USC §112, as being indefinite, especially insofar as this rejection is

applicable to the claims as presently amended. In this regard, as is clear from claims 4-6 as presently amended, the "thermosetting resin" in claim 4 refers to the "thermosetting resin" in the parent claim of claim 4 (that is, claim 3, not claim 1 as alleged by the Examiner in Item 4 on page 2 of the Office Action mailed November 8, 2002). That is, Applicants intend that the "thermosetting resin" in claim 4 is the same as the antecedently recited "thermosetting resin", to answer the Examiner's question.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, entry of the present amendments, and reconsideration and allowance of all claims remaining in the application, are respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current Amendment After Final Rejection. The changes are shown on the attached page captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE", and any following pages.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 511.37656X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", written over a horizontal line.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

As the thermosetting resin, an epoxy resin, a melamine resin, an isocyanate resin [compound], a polyfunctional acrylate resin [compound] or a polyfunctional methacrylate resin [compound] having two or more acryloyl groups or methacryloyl groups in the molecule or the like is used.

IN THE CLAIMS:

4. (Three Times Amended) The adhesive composition for a metal foil according to Claim 3, wherein [said composition comprises at least one] the thermosetting resin [which] does not react with a polyvinyl acetyl resin and [which] is compatible with the polyvinyl acetyl resin.

5. (Twice Amended) The adhesive composition for a metal foil according to Claim 4, wherein [said composition comprises at least one] the thermosetting resin [which] does not have an aromatic ring.

6. (Twice Amended) The adhesive composition for a metal foil according to Claim 3 [4], wherein the at least one of the polyfunctional acrylate compound [or] and the polyfunctional methacrylate compound has two or more acryloyl groups or methacryloyl groups in the molecule.

~~20~~. (Amended) The adhesive composition for a metal foil according to Claim 1, 3 or 7, further comprising a curing agent for the at least one of the polyfunctional acrylate compound [or] and the polyfunctional methacrylate compound.